

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ACCRA

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CVIS, ASEC

SUBJECT:POSSIBLE ATTEMPT ILLEGAL ENTRY TO U.S. BY GHANIAN
DURING XMAS HOLIDAYS

REF: ACCRA 7168

ABIDJAN FOR RSO

1. THE NEW YORK FIELD OFFICE OF THE OFFICE OF SECURITY
REPORTS THAT 90 GHANIAN NATIONALS WHO WERE ARRIVING JFK
NEW YORK CITY ON DECEMBER 27, 1974, WERE INTERVIEWED
BY IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE NYC. ALL WERE
PART OF TOUR GROUP AND WERE REQUESTING ENTRANCE TO U.S.
AS TOURISTS. THE TOUR WAS ALLEGEDLY SPONSORED BY THE
AFRICAN-AMERICAN CULTURAL SOCIETY (AACS) AND WAS LED
BY ITS HEAD, EMMANUEL O. ASHLEY. ASHLEY ADVISED THAT
THE GROUP WAS GOING TO SPEND 15 DAYS IN THE U.S. VISITING
NEW YORK AND BOSTON. ASHLEY FURTHER ADVISED THAT THE TOUR
WOULD BE STAYING AT THE YMCA SLOANE HOUSE WHILE IN NEW
YORK. INS SUBSEQUENTLY ESTABLISHED THAT GROUP DID NOT
HAVE RESERVATIONS AT SLOANE HOUSE.

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2. ALL 90 GHANIANS CLAIMED TO HAVE NO ACQUAINTANCES OR RELATIVES IN THE U.S. HOWEVER, INS PICKED UP 30 GHANIANS

WHO WERE WAITING AT JFK AIRPORT FOR INDIVIDUALS ON THE FLIGHT. INS FURTHER ESTABLISHED THAT VIRTUALLY ENTIRE GROUP HAD LESS THAN \$200 U.S. OR ITS EQUIVALENT IN THEIR POSSESSION. THIS AMOUNT WOULD HAVE BEEN INSUFFICIENT FOR A 15 DAY STAY IN THE U.S. EVEN AT THE PRICES QUOTED BY THE YMCA. ALSO, 86 GHANIANS DID NOT HAVE ROUND TRIP TICKETS TO GHANA. TICKETS IN THEIR POSSESSION WERE ONLY VALID FOR RETURN TRIP TO LONDON.

3. AFTER INS ADVISED GROUP A DECISION REGARDING THEIR ENTRY TO U.S. WOULD HAVE TO BE MADE BY AN INS JUDGE AND WOULD REQUIRE THEIR DETENTION FOR 24 TO 48 HOURS PENDING HIS DETERMINATION, THE GHANIANS ELECTED TO WITHDRAW THEIR APPLICATIONS FOR ADMISSION AND 86 RETURNED TO ENGLAND. THREE GHANIANS WERE ADMITTED TO THE U.S. AND ONE WAS PAROLED PENDING FURTHER CLARIFICATION OF HIS STATUS.

4. ONE OF THE INDIVIDUALS ADMITTED TO THE U.S. IDENTIFIED HIMSELF AS LOCAL EMPLOYEE OF EMBASSY ACCRA JUSTICE K. EUGHUN. HIS I.D. CARD ISSUED BY EMBASSY LISTED HIM AS CONSULAR ASSISTANT. VERIFICATION OF EMPLOYMENT WITH EMBASSY IS REQUESTED FOR BENEFIT OF INS NEW YORK. ALSO, IN THE EVENT THAT HE SHOULD FAIL TO RETURN TO GHANA, INS REPORTS INTEREST IN BEING INFORMED.

5. INS FURTHER INFORMED THAT A SECOND CONTINGENT OF THIS GROUP, NUMBERING SOME 45 PERSONS WHICH WAS DUE TO ARRIVE AT JFK NEW YORK CITY ON DECEMBER 30TH WAS REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN PROHIBITED FROM DEPARTING ENGLAND FOR THE U.S. BY BRITISH AUTHORITIES AND THEN FORCED TO RETURN TO GHANA. INS NEW YORK INFORMED THEY WOULD APPRECIATE CONFIRMATION OF THIS REPORT.

6. SY AGENTS WITNESSING INS INTERROGATION OF GHANIANS BY INS REPORT THAT GROUP APPEARED TO HAVE BEEN WELL REHEARSED REGARDING STATEMENTS THEY WERE TO MAKE DURING THEIR INSPECTION UPON ARRIVAL IN U.S.
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7. INS REQUESTED THAT SY AGENTS CONVEY TO EMBASSY ACCRA THEIR APPRECIATION FOR RAPID RESPONSES TO THEIR PREVIOUS QUERIES WHICH INSURED SUCCESS OF THIS OPERATION. KISSINGER

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